

Instructions: In the event a New IDEAS amyloid PET scan is denied by the insurer, review this document and example language in Part A. Download the Word version of the document and fill in the information in the fields highlighted in yellow. Submit this letter to the insurer with supporting clinical documentation.



PET Center Name:
PET Center Address:
PET Center Phone Number:
PET Center Fax Number:

Patient Name:
Policy Number:
Date of Service:

To Whom It May Concern:

A. *He/She has been experiencing short-term memory loss, change in behavior for over 2 years, confusion and disorientation. Global cognitive testing reveals MoCA score of 18/30. He requires assistance in managing finances and medications due to cognitive impairment. He meets criteria for dementia. His clinical presentation could be consistent with either frontotemporal dementia or Alzheimer's disease.*

(Patient Name) is a patient of ours who was referred for a brain amyloid positron emission tomography (PET) scan at (PET Center Name) on (Insert Date). This PET scan was obtained because the patient is enrolled in the New Imaging Dementia—Evidence for Amyloid Scanning (New IDEAS) study. New IDEAS is a Coverage with Evidence Development (CED) study (NCT04426539) sponsored by the American College of Radiology and the Alzheimer's Association that was approved by CMS on April 21, 2020, in accordance with National Coverage Determination 220.60. The study aims to determine the clinical usefulness and impact on patient outcomes of a brain PET scan that detects amyloid plaques, a core feature of Alzheimer's disease. The overall purpose of the New IDEAS Study is to understand the association between amyloid PET imaging and patient-centered outcomes in a diverse population, specifically Black/African American and Hispanic/Latinx populations who were underrepresented in the original IDEAS Study and bear the greatest burden of dementia.

A. Describe the symptoms the patient is experiencing including diagnosis (Mild Cognitive Impairment or dementia), years of cognitive decline and severity, impact on activities of daily living, cognitive testing results (e.g. MMSE or MoCA), and additional supporting details.

Therefore, the amyloid PET scan is important to determine the patient's diagnosis and treatment. Most importantly, this patient met the eligibility criteria for New IDEAS and is participating in that Medicare-approved CED study. Under the conditions of NCD 220.60, CMS considers this PET scan to be a covered service for which coverage and payment must be provided by Medicare Administrative Contractors, Medicare Advantage Organizations and, where applicable, by supplemental insurance (Medigap) plans. Therefore, this service, including the diagnostic radiopharmaceutical used to perform the PET scan, is not experimental and should be paid.

We are appealing the denial dated, (Insert Date), and are attaching a detailed letter developed by the IDEAS study team and CMS to assist your processing of this claim. We are happy to discuss or put you in contact with the New IDEAS Study CMS consultant should you require more information.

Sincerely,

PET Imaging Facility Contact Information